

NOAA UAS Program Briefs the NWA's 41st Annual Meeting

UAS for Rapid Response Operations for NWS and EMA Damage Assessment hot topic at the conference.

NOAA UAS Program's John Walker briefed the National Weather Association's (NWA) 41st Annual Meeting held in Norfolk, VA September 10-15, 2016. The UAS Program Office, under NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), is dedicated to assisting all NOAA Line Offices and associated collaborators in identifying opportunities to expand and transition into routine operations UAS observational capabilities that stand to benefit the organization's objectives and society at large.

The briefing was well received and provided an overview of the NOAA UAS Program Office's roles and capabilities. The crux of the briefing focused on the ongoing development of a UAS rapid response framework and protocol for use in post-disaster response and damage assessment missions, specifically for the benefit of local National Weather Service (NWS) weather forecast offices. In recent years, the advancement in unmanned systems technology, growing access to the this burgeoning capability in the civil sector, and the advent of new, flexible regulations has paved a pathway for UAS data to become a viable resource for utilization by the NWS and its partners in the emergency response community. Examples of events and imagery from recent real-world operations was presented in detail.

More information can be found at: https://uas.noaa.gov.

Is this is an issue of potential concern?

This item has high visibility

Geographic Location (Relevant region, city location) Norfolk Waterside Marriott, Norfolk, VA

Partnering offices OAR, NOAA UAS Program, NWS

Contact's email address john.j.coffey@noaa.gov

Contact's phone number (904) 923-1709